REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-21 are currently pending. Claims 1, 9 and 15 are independent and are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed.

Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly unpatentable over Japanese Patent No. JP 2000-232458 to Yokogawa et al. (hereinafter, merely "Yokogawa") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0015967 of Sugiura.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 1 is representative and recites, *inter alia*:

> "prior to determination of whether video data is to be transmitted, transmitting from a first antenna body a reference signal to the wireless terminal communication apparatus,
> . . .

subsequently and prior to determination of whether video data is to be transmitted, transmission of a reference signal from a second antenna body to the wireless terminal communication terminal apparatus

. . .

wherein a range of detection of the reference signal by the wireless terminal apparatus is enlarged by the transmission of the reference signal alternately through each of the plurality of antenna bodies" (emphases added)

As understood by Applicants, Yokogawa describes, in relevant part, the key station sends wireless data to the child offices. In Yokogawa, the key station selects and changes the antenna after a failure in sending the data to the child offices. *See, for example,* Yokogawa par. [0019] ("not having received the confirmation-of-receipt signal"). Because Yokogawa selects and changes the antenna after the failure to send the data, there is a problem with some data transmissions, such as in a television system. That is, Yokogawa has the problem in a television system requiring real-time response, when video sent to the wireless terminal apparatus is disconnected or audio data is interrupted.

In contrast, claim 1 recites, "prior to determination of whether video data is to be transmitted, transmitting from a first antenna body a reference signal to the wireless terminal communication apparatus . . . subsequently and prior to determination of whether video data is to be transmitted, transmission of a reference signal from a second antenna body to the wireless terminal communication terminal apparatus . . . wherein a range of detection of the reference signal by the wireless terminal apparatus is enlarged by the transmission of the reference signal alternately through each of the plurality of antenna bodies."

That is, in an aspect of the invention as claimed in claim 1, the wireless communication apparatus sends wireless data to the wireless terminal apparatus, the wireless communication

apparatus having selected the optimal antenna before sending the data to the wireless terminal apparatus. Publ. App. pars [0062]-[0069]. See, in particular, Publ. App. par. [0065].

As described in the specification:

> "The wireless communication apparatus 1 performs identification processing of the communication-targeted wireless terminal apparatus 400 located within the communication area created by each of the directional patterns of the antennas 501, 502, storage processing of a correspondence relationship between the communication-targeted wireless terminal apparatus 400 and each of the antennas 501 and 502 or the like, and at the time of making the wireless communication, and performs selection processing of either one of the antennas 501, 502 which corresponds to the pertinent wireless terminal apparatus 400 based on the reading processing of the information stored beforehand." Publ. App. par. [0032].

> "In the state where such two antennas 501, 502 having different directivities from each other are provided, the wireless communication apparatus 1 transmits a reference signal SR to the communication-targeted wireless terminal apparatuses 400 located within these directivities through these antennas 501, 502 alternately. At this time, since the reference signal SR is alternately transmitted through the antennas 501, 502, the range where the communication-targeted wireless terminal apparatus 400 can recognize the reference signal SR is enlarged. In this manner, the communication-capable distance between the wireless communication apparatus 1 and the wireless terminal apparatus 400 can be elongated." Publ. App. par. [0040] and FIG. 2

> "When there is no antenna to be subjected to the above processing among such antennas 501, 502, the process proceeds to Step A7 where the wireless communication apparatus 1 determines whether or not data should be wireless-transmitted. The determination at this time is made based on whether or not a command, etc. for transmitting data from the pertinent wireless communication apparatus 1 to the wireless terminal apparatus 400 [#1] or the wireless terminal apparatus 400 [#2] is detected. Therefore, when data is to be transmitted, the process proceeds to Step A8 where either one of the antennas 501, 502 is selected which corresponds to the communication-targeted wireless terminal apparatus 400 to which the data is to be transmitted." Publ. App. par. [0040] and FIG. 2

In the invention as claimed in claim 1, before determining whether to transmit video data, a reference signal is sent from each antenna, one after the other, to the wireless terminal devices. The claim language recites the reference signal is transmitted from the first antenna before determining whether to transmit video data. Subsequently, a reference signal is sent from the second antenna (also before determining whether to transmit video data).

That is, the reference signals are sent "daisy chain" fashion from each antenna body before the sending of any video data. Therefore, this is an initial condition for preparation of the antenna table, which is prepared in the particular way the reference signals are sent alternately as recited in the claim.

Claim 1 avoids the problems of Yokogawa, discussed above, by selecting the optimal antenna before sending video data that requires a real-time response to the wireless terminal apparatus.

The Office Action, at page 2. par. 1, points to Yokogama paragraphs [0007]-[0009] for the above recited elements of claim 1. However, even the barely understandable machine translation provided by the Office, Yokogama nowhere discloses the reference signal is sent only from one antenna at a time, prior to determining whether to send video data, daisy-chain fashion.

The description in Yokogama in pars. [0012] and [0019], for example, at most describe actions taken after a failure in transmission of the video data, not before. A careful reading of Yokogama (in the original Japanese, not a machine translation) describes a base station performs scan processing of inputs of antenna sector units and waits to receive data. However, the key

station (master station) only selects and changes the antenna after a failure to send the data to child (slave) offices.

The Office Action appears to be speculating as to the meaning of the poor machine translation of Yokogama paragraph [0012]. However, it is clear that Yokogama discloses that the base station performs scan processing of inputs of antenna sector units and wait to receive back acknowledgement data. If acknowledgement data is not received then the key station selects and changes the antenna, that is, after a failure to send data to the child offices (actually a failure of the child to acknowledge receipt).

For reasons similar or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 9 and 15 are also believed to be patentable.

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III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-21 are in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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